6.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a switch.

7.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a <u>second</u> <u>network</u> hub.

8.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises an Ethernet interface card.

9.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a computer.

10.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises an Ethernet peripheral device.

11.   (currently amended) An apparatus ~~configured to connect to a network, the apparatus~~ comprising:

      a memory which stores instructions to,

           <u>determine a speed at which a network hub is transmitting data based on signals</u> <u>sent from the network hub;</u>

           configure the apparatus ~~for a communication mode, from a plurality of possible communication modes, wherein the communication mode includes transferring data between the device and the network simultaneously in time~~ <u>to communicate with the network hub in a half</u> <u>duplex mode,</u>

           transfer data between the apparatus and the network <u>hub</u> ~~based on the communication mode~~ <u>in the half duplex mode using a transmission speed based on the speed at</u> <u>which the network hub is transmitting data,</u>

           <u>determine whether the data has been properly transferred between the apparatus</u> <u>and the network hub in the half duplex mode;</u>

if the data has not been properly transferred between the apparatus and the
network hub, configure the apparatus to communicate with the network hub in a full duplex
mode, and transfer data between the apparatus and the network hub in the full duplex mode using
the transmission speed based on the speed at which the network hub is transmitting data; and

  determine whether to retain the apparatus in the communication in the full duplex
mode; and

  a processor which executes the instructions.

12-13. (cancelled)

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the network comprises an Ethernet
network.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the apparatus is incorporated into a
medium access controller.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the apparatus is incorporated into a switch.

17. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the apparatus is incorporated
into another network hub.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the apparatus is incorporated into an
Ethernet interface card.

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the apparatus is incorporated into a
computer.

20. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the apparatus is incorporated into an Ethernet peripheral device.

21. (currently amended) An article comprising a machine-readable medium that stores instructions that cause a machine to:

receive data from a ~~connected~~ network hub, including receiving information about a speed at which the network hub is transmitting data;

configure the machine ~~for a communication mode, from a plurality of possible communication modes, for transferring data between the machine and the network, wherein the communication mode includes transferring data between the machine and the network simultaneously in time~~ to communicate with the network hub in a half duplex mode;

transfer data between the machine and the network hub ~~based on the determined communication~~ in the half duplex mode using a transmission speed based on the speed at which the network hub is transmitting data;

determine whether the data has been properly transferred between the machine and the network hub in the half duplex mode;

if the data has not been properly transferred between the machine and the network hub, configure the machine to communicate with the network hub in a full duplex mode, and transfer data between the machine and the network hub in the full duplex mode using the transmission speed based on the speed at which the network hub is transmitting data; and

determine whether to retain the machine in the ~~communication~~ full duplex mode.

22-23. (cancelled)

24. (original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21 is a random access memory.

25. (original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21 is a read only memory.

26.   (original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21 is a hard disk drive.

27.   (new) The method of claim 1 in which receiving information about the speed at which the network hub is transmitting data comprises receiving Fast Link Pulses from the network hub.

28.   (new) The method of claim 1 in which receiving information about the speed at which the network hub is transmitting data comprises receiving signals transmitted by the network hub during network idle times.

29.   (new) The method of claim 11 in which the signals sent from the network hub comprises Fast Link Pulses.

30.   (new) The method of claim 11 in which determine the speed at which the network hub is transmitting data comprises determine the speed at which the network hub is transmitting data based on signals sent from the network hub during network idle times.

31.   (new) The article of claim 21 in which receiving information about the speed at which the network hub is transmitting data comprises receiving Fast Link Pulses from the network hub.

32.   (new) The article of claim 21 in which receiving information about the speed at which the network hub is transmitting data comprises receiving signals transmitted by the network hub during network idle times.